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Message Text

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21
ACTION H-03

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---------- 048319
R 130635Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2069
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP (WOLFF, LESTER)
SUBJECT: CODEL WOLFF VISIT TO KOREA

SUMMARY: CONGRESSMAN LESTER WOLFF AND DELEGATION OF 26, INCLUDING TEN OTHER CONGRESSMEN, VISITED SEOUL FROM AUGUST 8 THROUGH AUGUST 11. DESPITE POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN WEEKEND, VACATION PERIOD SCHEDULE, VISIT PROCEEDED SMOOTHLY FOLLOWING MODIFIED SCHEDULE REQUESTED BY CODEL. END SUMMARY.

1. CODEL BEGAN SATURDAY, AUGUST 9 ACTIVITIES WITH FIFTY MINUTE BRIEFING WITH CHARGE AND EMBASSY COUNTRY TEAM DURING WHICH GROUP DISCUSSED BOTH SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN KOREA. CONGRESSMEN THEN PAID CALL ON SPEAKER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

2. ALL CONGRESSMEN PLUS AIDES DUSKIE AND FOX TRAVELED VIA PRESIDENTIAL AIRCRAFT WITH CHARGE TO CHINHAE FOR VISIT WITH PRESIDENT PAK AT HIS VACATION RETREAT. DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT PAK LASTED THREE HOURS AND FORTY MINUTES. IN CODEL WOLFF'S AUGUST 11 PRESS CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN WOLFF NOTED THAT DISCUSSIONS HAD TOUCHED ON KOREAN NATIONAL SECURITY AND THAT CODEL HAD MADE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS TO PRESIDENT ON SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.
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3. UPON THEIR RETURN, CONGRESSMEN GUYER, DE LA GARZA AND MYERS RECEIVED HONORARY DEGREES FROM HANYANG UNIVERSITY. CONGRESSMAN WOLFF WAS MADE HONORARY MEMBER OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES. ON SATURDAY EVENING CODEL ATTENDED SPEAKER'S DINNER AT PACIFIC HOTEL'S SHOW RESTAURANT.

4. ON AUGUST 10, CONGRESSMEN ATTENDED ROK MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE BRIEFING AT YONGSAN PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR PANMUNJOM ACCOMPANIED BY WIVES. UN COMMANDER GAVE BRIEFING THERE IN ADDITION TO REGULAR JOINT SECURITY AREA BRIEFING. GROUP ATTENDED CHARGE'S COCKTAIL BUFFET THAT EVENING AS WELL AS LATER INFORMAL PARTY BY SPEAKER.

5. ON AUGUST 11, BULK OF CONGRESSMEN PAID CALL ON PRIMIN FOLLOWED BY PRESS CONFERENCE AT EMBASSY TRADE CENTER WITH CONGRESSMEN WOLFF, GILMAN, MINETA, BADILLO, AND SIMON PARTICIPATING. ON WAY TO AIRPORT, CONGRESSMAN WOLFF LAID WREATH OF FLOWERS ON GRAVE OF MRS. PAK CHONG-HUI WITH ALL MEMBERS OF CODEL ATTENDING BRIEF CEREMONY. CODEL DEPARTED OSAN AT 1400 HOURS.

6. DURING VISIT, CONGRESSMAN WOLFF ATTENDED CHARGE'S PRIVATE BREAKFAST WITH KIM TAE-CHUNG. CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ MET PRIVATELY WITH KIM AS WELL AS WITH US MARYKNOLL MISSIONARY FATHER CORCORAN AND WITH FOREIGN MINISTER KIM TONG-CHO BEFORE HIS DELAYED 1900 DEPARTURE.

7. LOCAL PRESS GAVE CONSIDERABLE COVERAGE TO CODEL VISIT, HEADLINING CODEL ASSESSMENTS US DOMESTIC ATTITUDES TOWARD ROK, AND SECURITY SITUATION. TONGA RADIO AND CHRISTIAN BROADCASTING SYSTEM (CBS) INITIAL RADIO REPORTS BOTH MENTIONED CONGRESSMAN WOLFF'S REMARKS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM (PARA 2) BUT DELETED REFERENCES THIS SUBJECT IN ALL FOLLOWING BROADCASTS. LOCAL PRESS MADE NO MENTION OF SUBJECT AT ALL.
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TAGS: OREP, (WOLFF, LESTER)
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